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Subject: Upper Columbia River sampling, update

Site Assessment field activities completed as of June 2001:

- collection of sediment samples from along a 70 river mile stretch of the Upper Columbia River extending from the US-Canada border southward to Inchelium, WA (approx. 180 sediment samples collected)
- collection of sediment samples from along a 35 river mile stretch of the Pend Oreille River extending from Boundary Dam near the border southward to Metaline, WA (approx. 25 sediment samples collected)
- reconnaissance visits to 78 mines and mills in the Upper Columbia River drainage area to identify potential contaminant sources (9 mines/mills were sampled)
[sample analyses: metals and pesticide/PCBs]

On-going activities:

- identification of properties and property owners for Phase 2 mine/mill visits [drainage area includes tributaries i.e. Kettle and Colville Rivers]
- access arrangements/negotiations
[we hope to be in the field by mid-September]

Communication of EPA activities continues with:

USDOI agencies (BR, BLM, BIA, FWS, NPS)

USDA FS

WA State Dept of Ecology

Colville Confederated Tribes

Spokane Tribe

Stevens, Pend Oreille & Ferry County Commissioners

communities in northeast WA via Fact sheet of May 2001 and interested media

Feel free to contact me at (206) 553-0323 with additional questions. Thank you. - Monica

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